

# Sorting Words – Junior School



We can learn a lot from sorting words.

Sorting makes us look at the spelling patterns and think about meanings.

When your teacher gives you a list of words to sort you may be asked to OPEN SORT them. That means you can make your own groups, as long as you can explain to someone why you grouped them in this way.

Sometimes you may be asked to sort them in a particular way. This is a CLOSED SORT.

Your teacher may ask you to find:

## 1. Words with the same start

*feet, first, felt*

*the, this then*

## 2. Words that end the same

*pen, then, men*

## 3. Words that rhyme

*snow, go, Joe*

## 4. Words that are long

*hippopotamus*

## 5. Words that are short

*me*

## 6. Words with particular vowels: a, e, i, o, u

*a – catch*

*e – bent*

*i – wing*

*o – moth*

*u – jump*

## 7. Words with same number of syllables

*river, coming, dragon – all have 2 syllables*

*banana, December, suddenly – all have 3 syllables*

## 8. Compound words

*something, everyone*

9. Sort words into alphabetical order

*day, stop, tell, yes..*

10. Create word families based on other similarities e.g. animals and not animals

*ANIMALS: dog, pig, cat, hen*

*NOT ANIMALS: red, bad, go, big*

11. Words that are nouns
12. Words that are verbs
13. Words that are adjectives
14. Words that are adverbs
15. Words with prefixes
16. Words with suffixes
17. Words I know, words I think I know  
and words I don't know at all
18. Words with long or short vowels
19. Synonyms, antonyms
20. Words with similar meaning
21. Words with the same origin
22. Sort words in your own way and  
explain your groupings
- 23.
24. Cut several words into syllables and  
reassemble them to make new words
25. Cut off prefixes or suffixes and  
rearrange as above
26. Create word families based on other  
similarities e.g. animal names